



# FCC Gasoline Treating Using Catalytic Distillation

**Texas Technology Showcase  
March 2003, Houston, Texas**

**Dr. Mitchell E. Loescher**

# Gasoline of the Future

- Lead is out
- Olefins reduced
- Aromatics reduced
- Benzene reduced
- Sulfur reduced

# Gasoline Desulfurization Requirements

## – Pool sulfur specification

- Europe

- European Union
- 50 ppm max - 2005
- 10 ppm max
- - available 2005
- - standard 2008

- US, Canada

- 30 ppm avg - 2002 to 2008

- Future

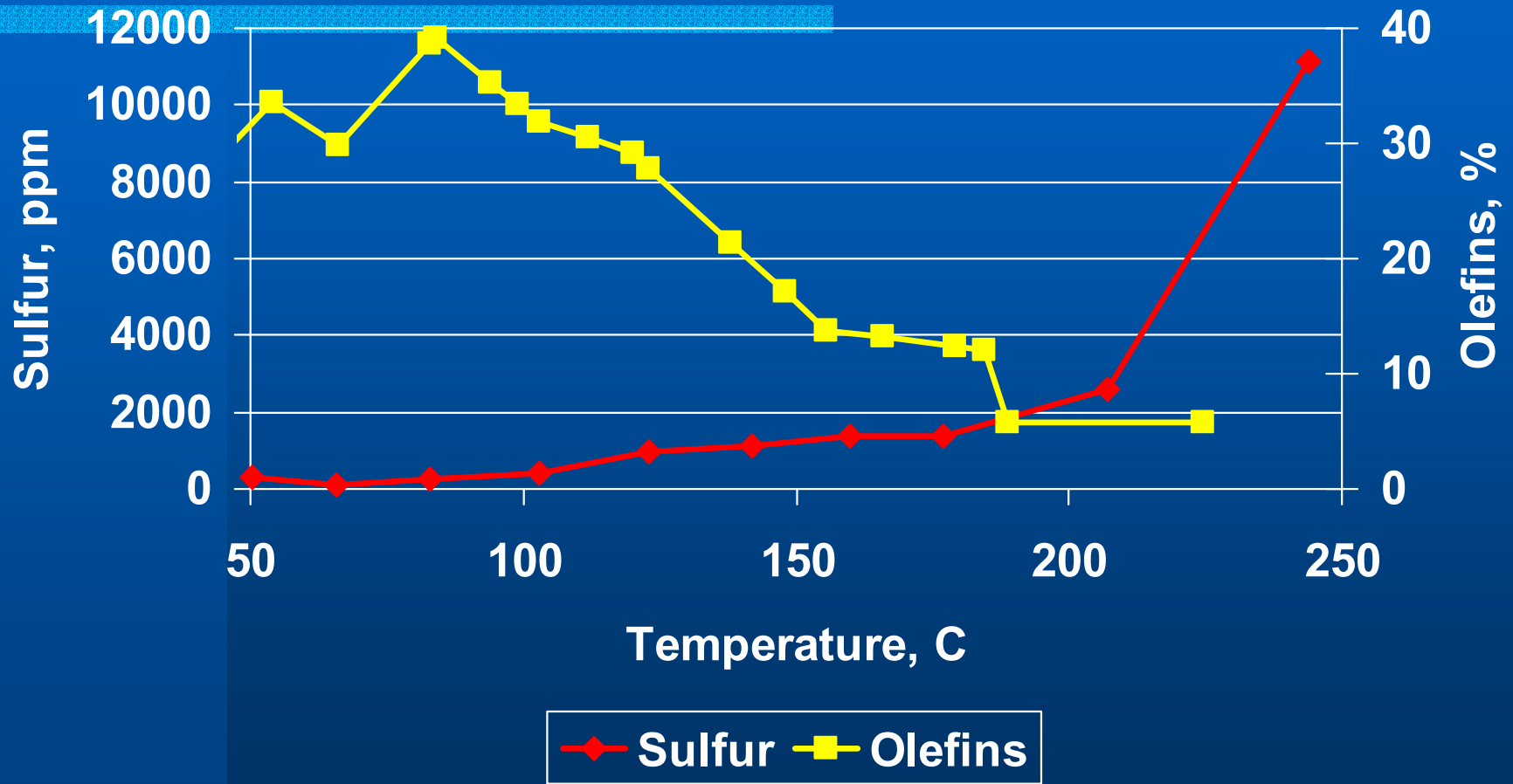
- 15 -10 -5 ppm? - 2005+

# Sulfur Sources

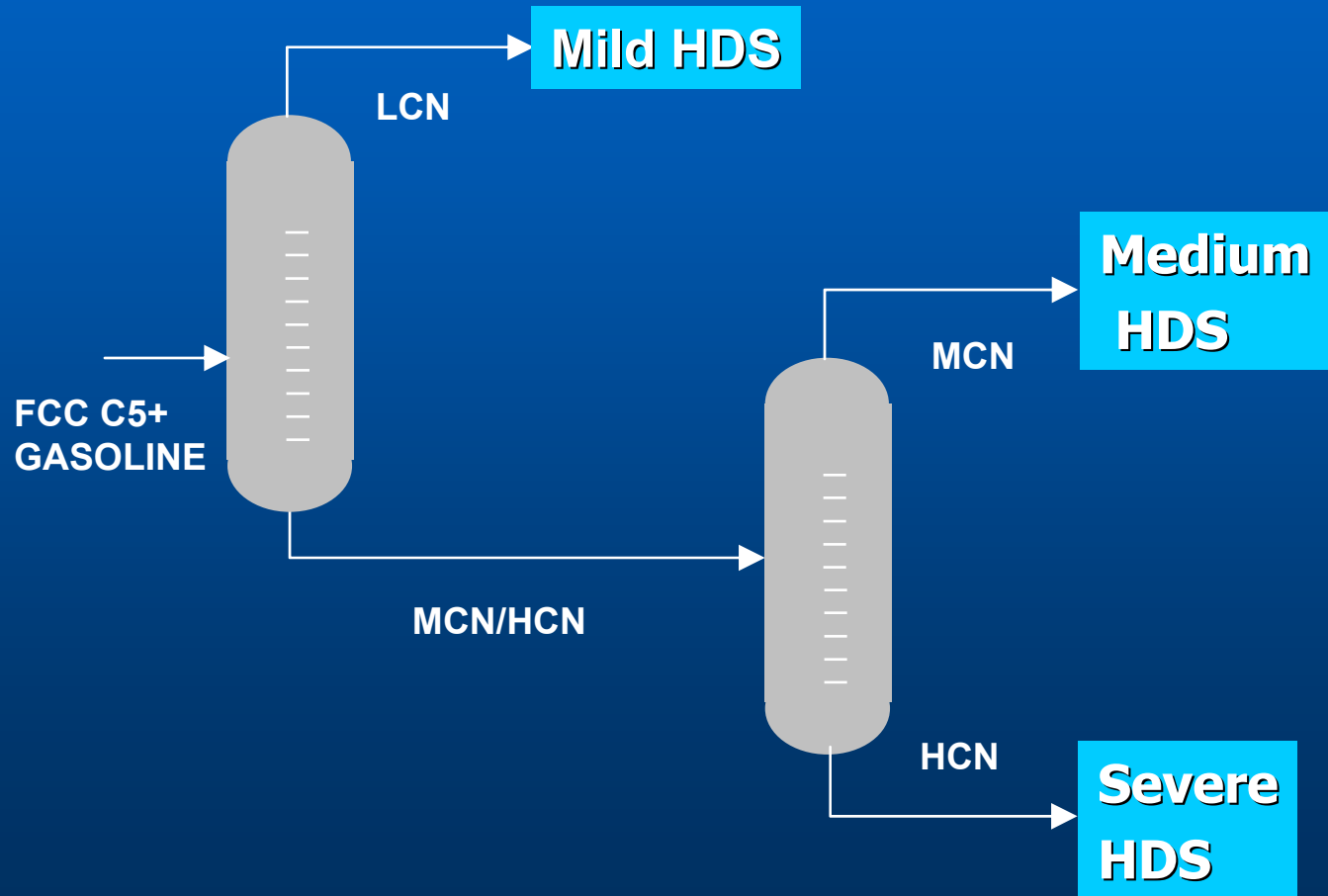
## ■ FCC Naphtha

- 200 to 3000 ppm
- 25 to 40% of refinery pool volume
- 85 to 99% of refinery pool sulfur

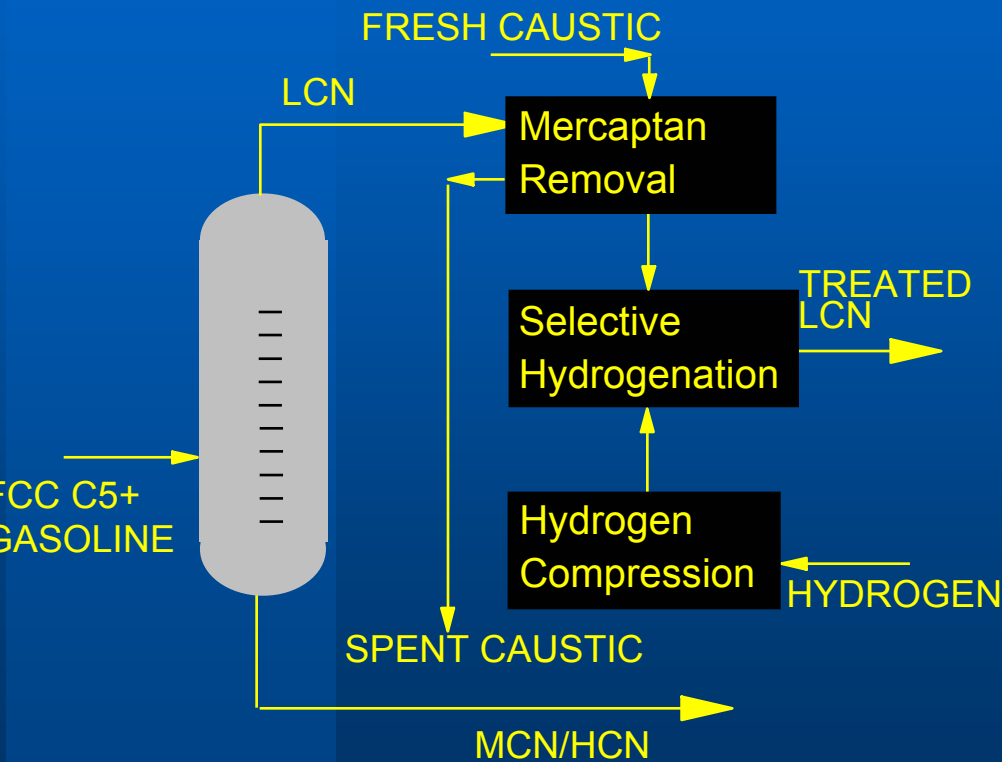
# FCC Gasoline Feed Composition



# Optimized HDS Process



# Conventional LCN Treating

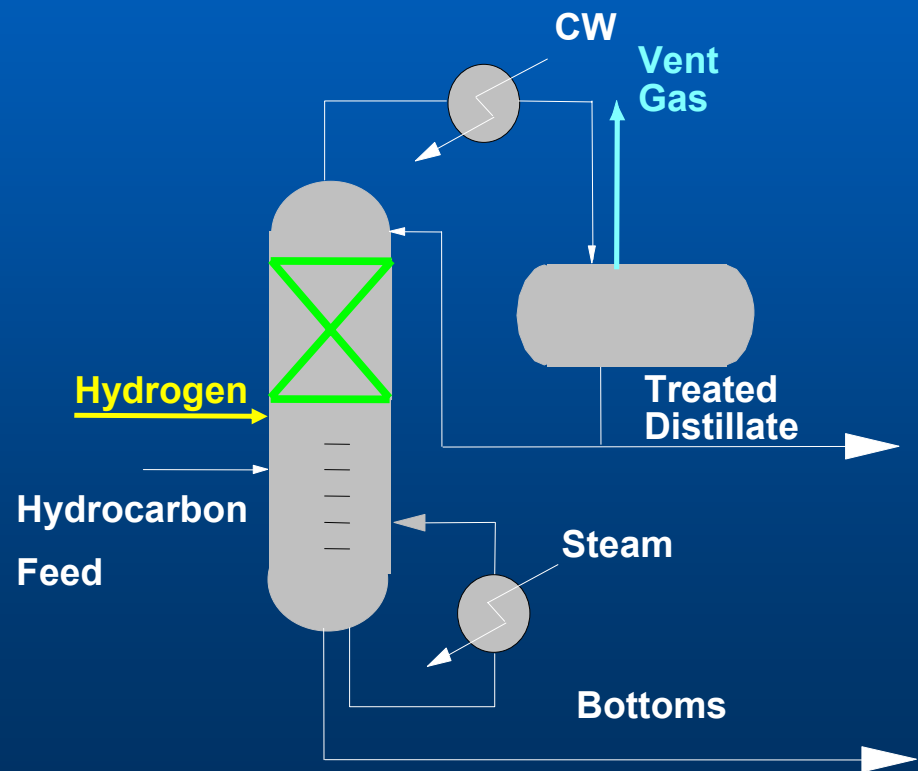


- Fractionate LCN from FCC Gasoline
- Caustic wash for mercaptan removal
  - ~90% effective
- Selective hydrogenation of dienes for alky/ethers
- Compression of makeup hydrogen

# Hydrogenation / Distillation

- Replace trays with structured distillation packing containing catalyst
- Add Hydrogen Feed
- Vent excess Hydrogen

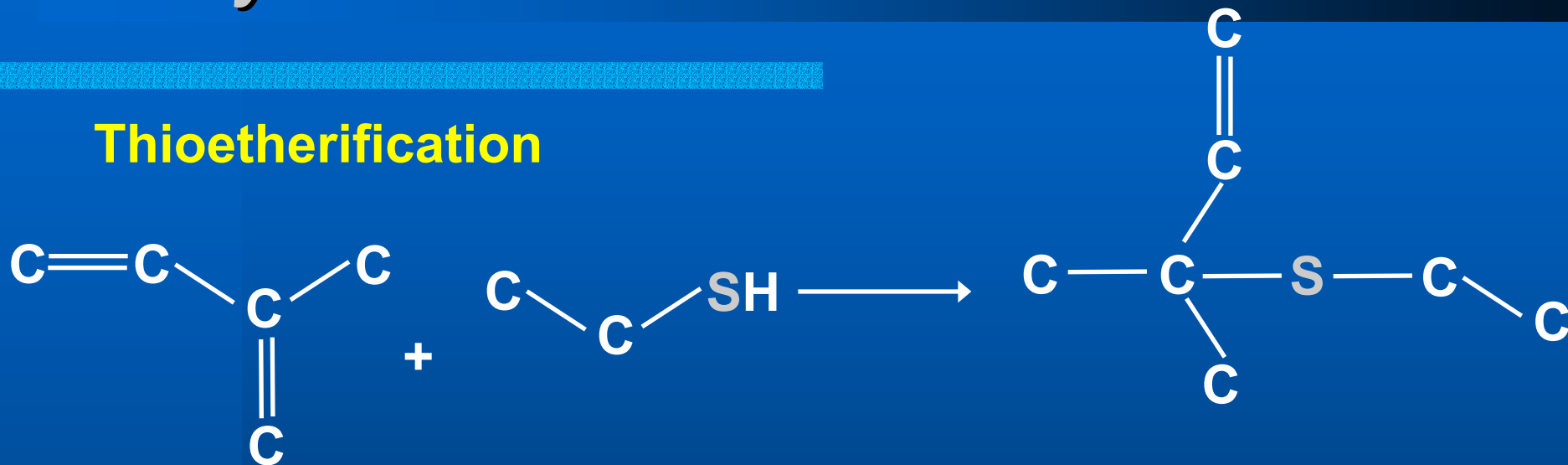
## CDHydro<sup>®</sup> Process



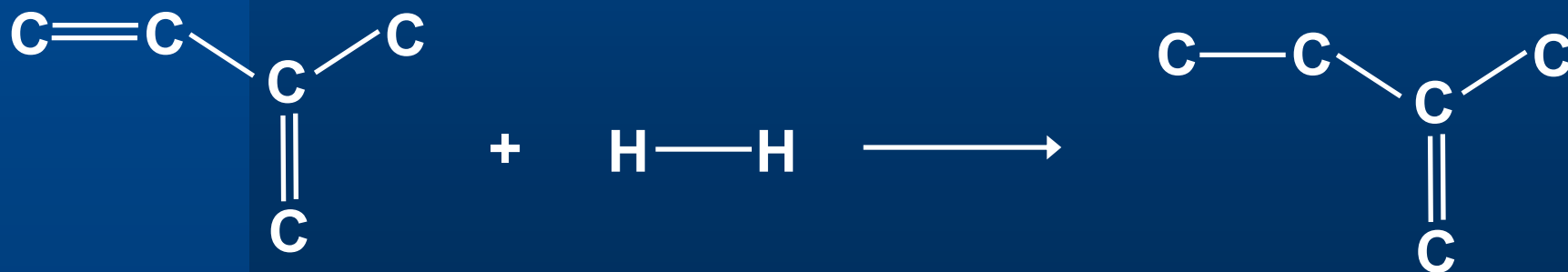


# CDHydro Reactions

## Thioetherification



## Selective Hydrogenation



# CD*Hydro* Reactions

**Isomerization**



**RON**

**118**

# CD*Hydro* Reactions

**Isomerization**



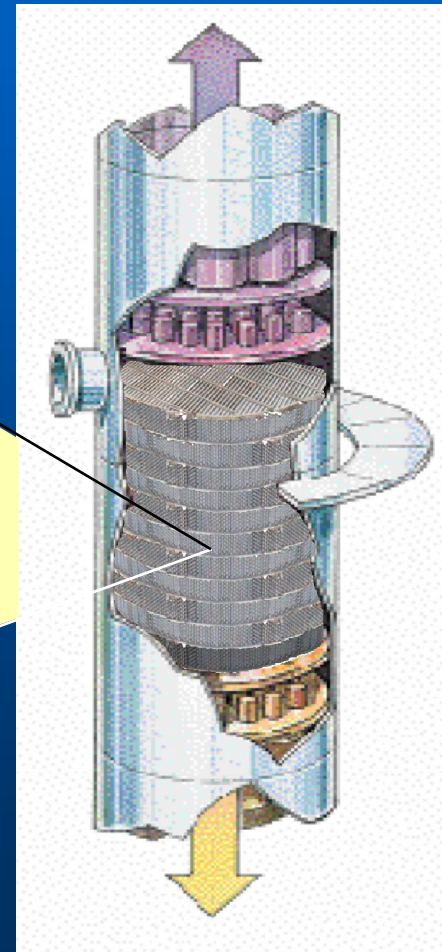
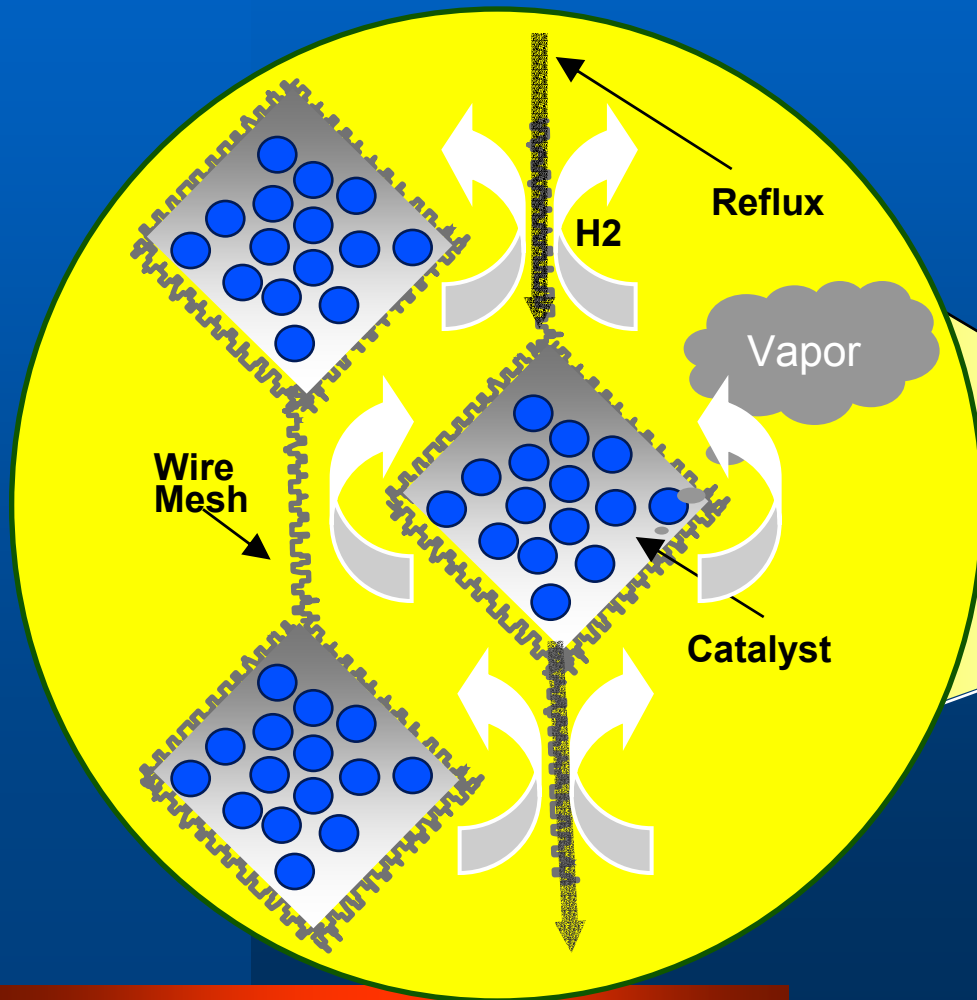
**RON**

~~118~~ 150

**+0.5**

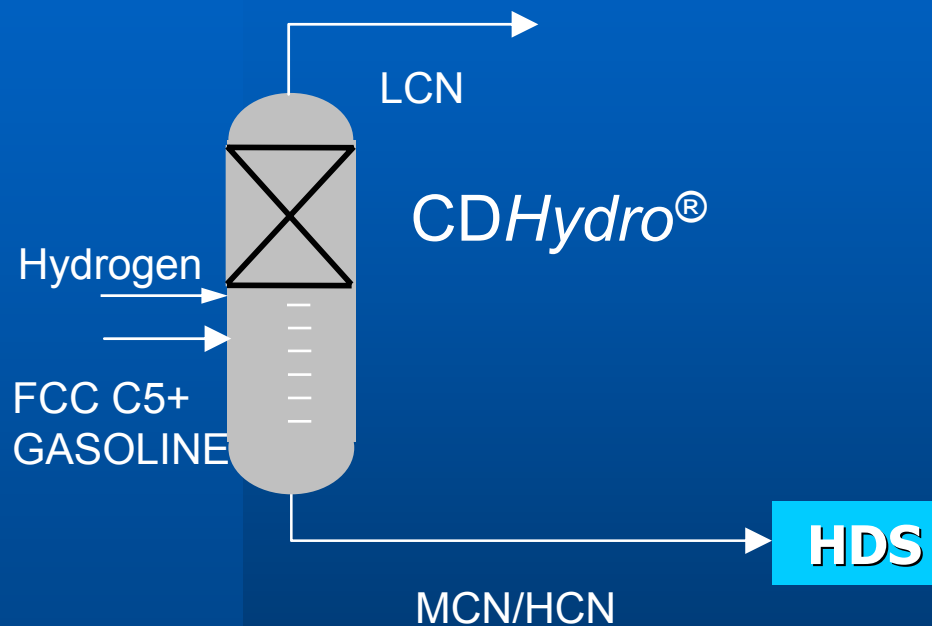
**Hydroisomerization boosts full range FCC  
naphtha by 0.5 RON**

# Catalytic Distillation

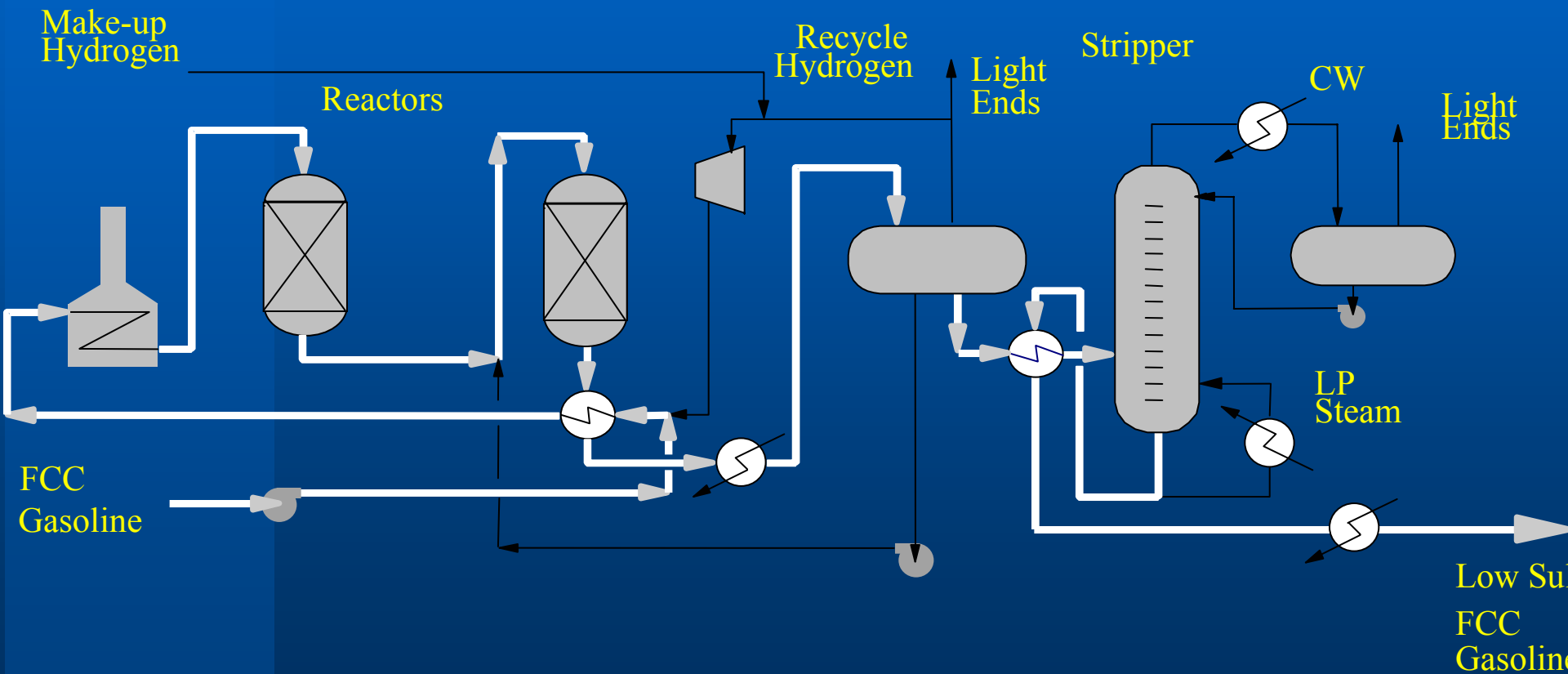


Catalyst Section  
Drawing

# Optimized FCC Naphtha HDS

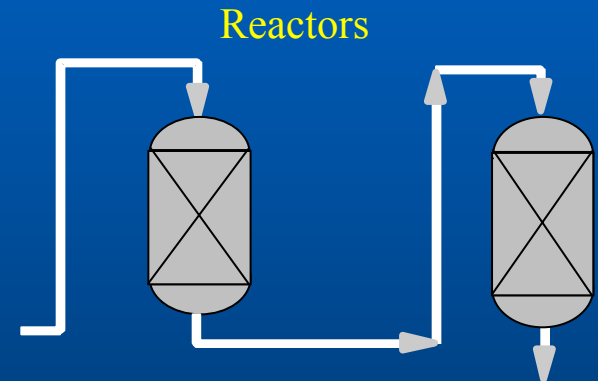


# Conventional MCN/HCN HDS

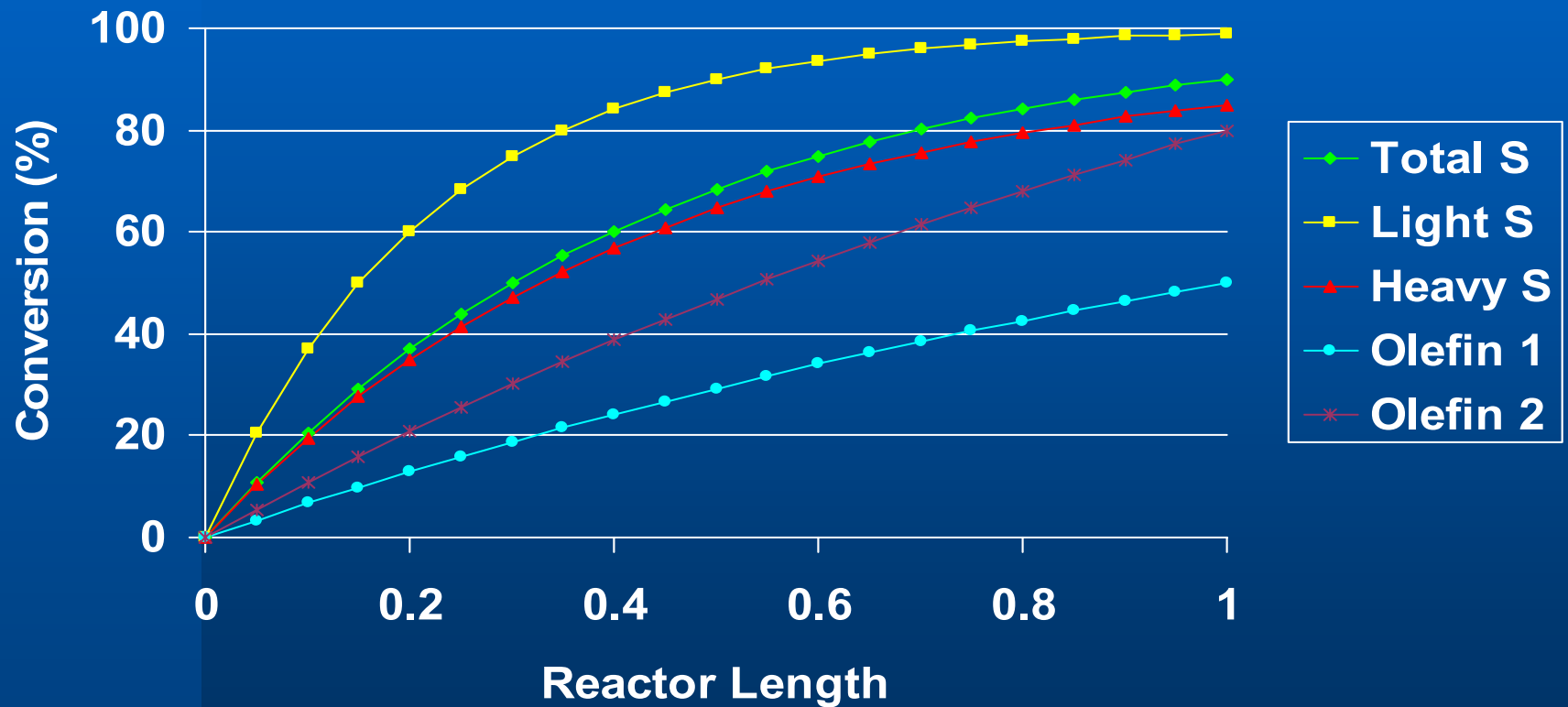


# Conventional Reactor Design

- **Severity of reactor conditions set by most refractory species**
  - Temperature
  - $H_2$  partial pressure
- **Lighter sulfur species react to very high conversions**
- **All olefins exposed to the most severe conditions**



# Conventional Fixed Bed HDS

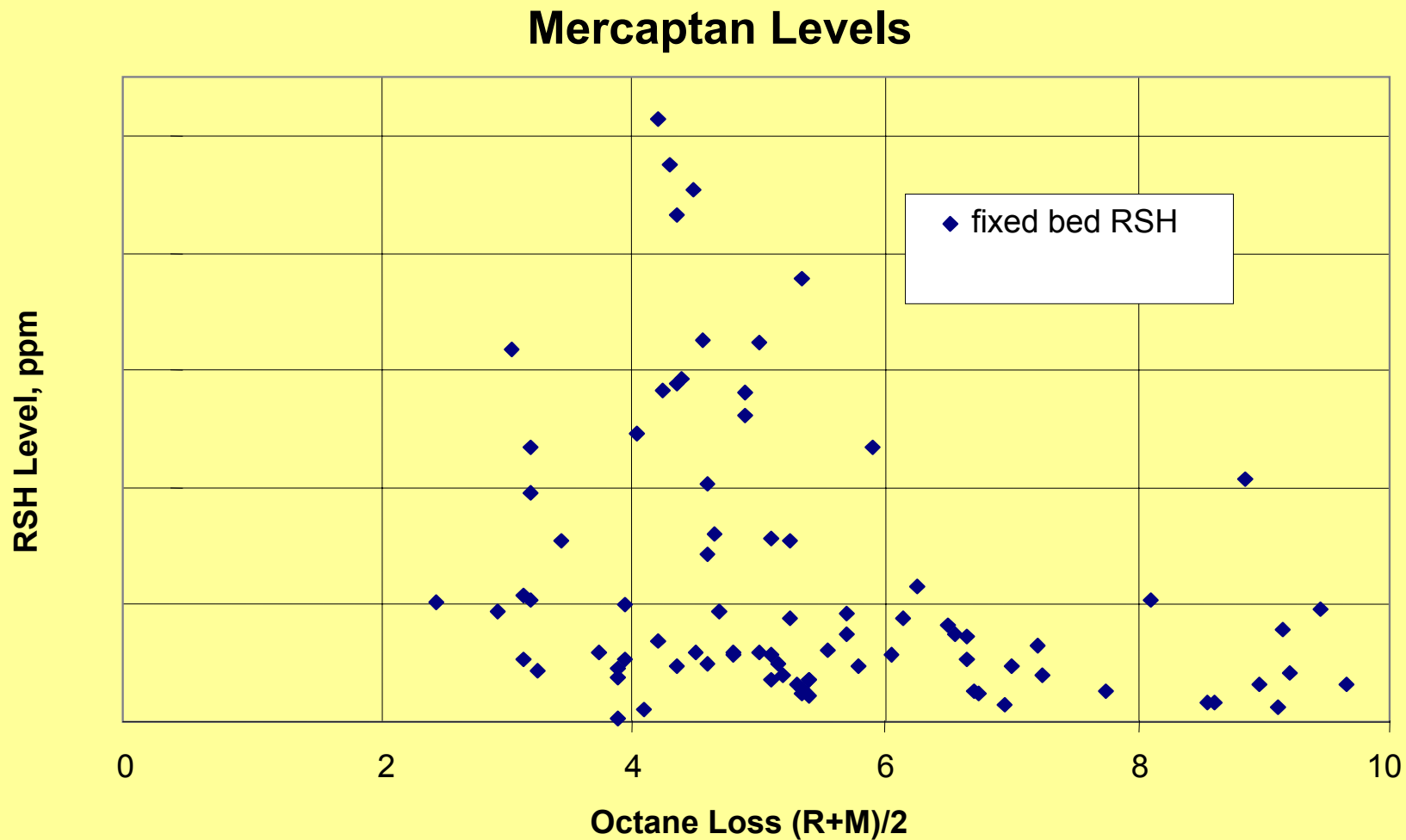


**Olefin 1 - with recombinant mercaptan in product**

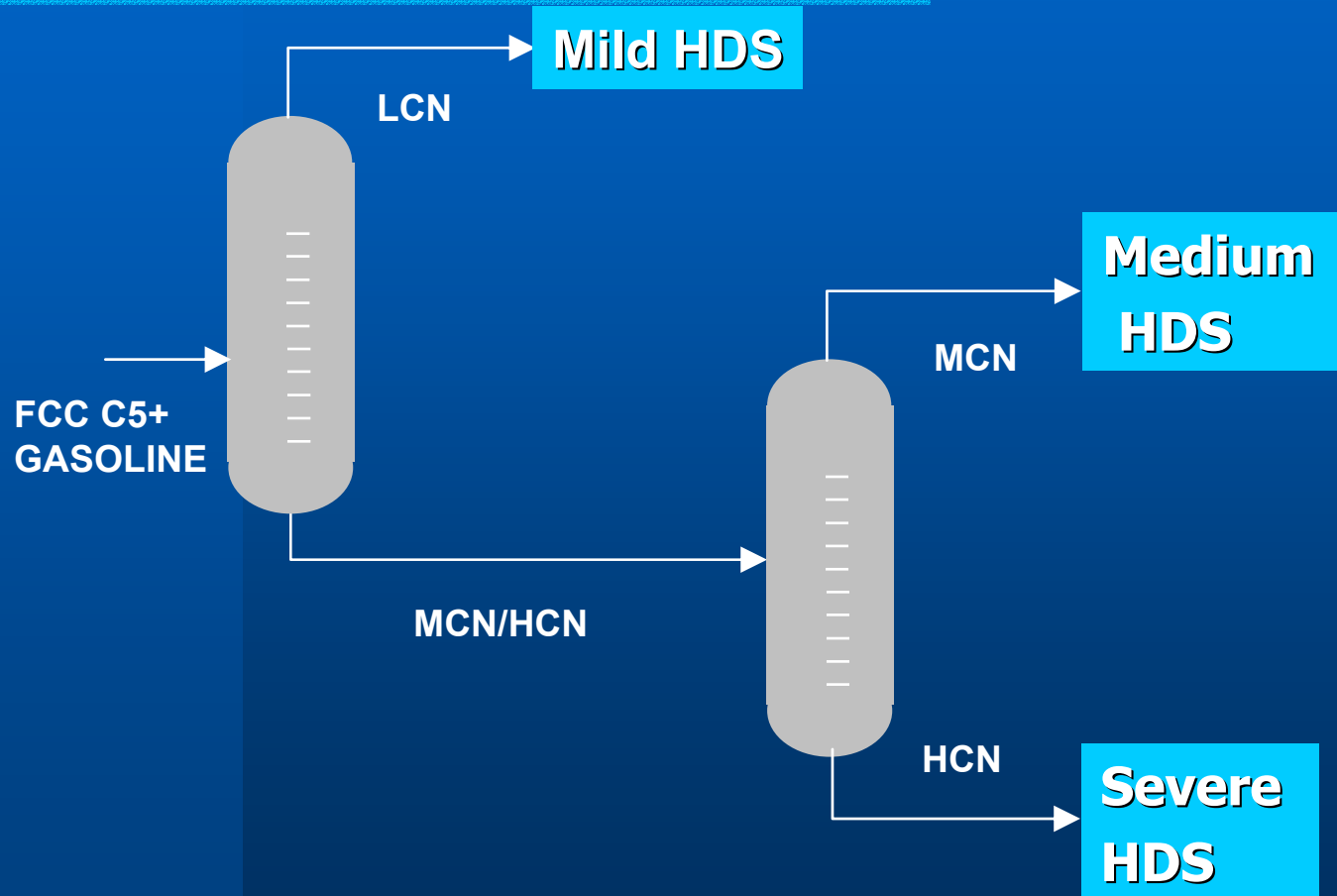
**Olefin 2 - w/o recombinant mercaptan**



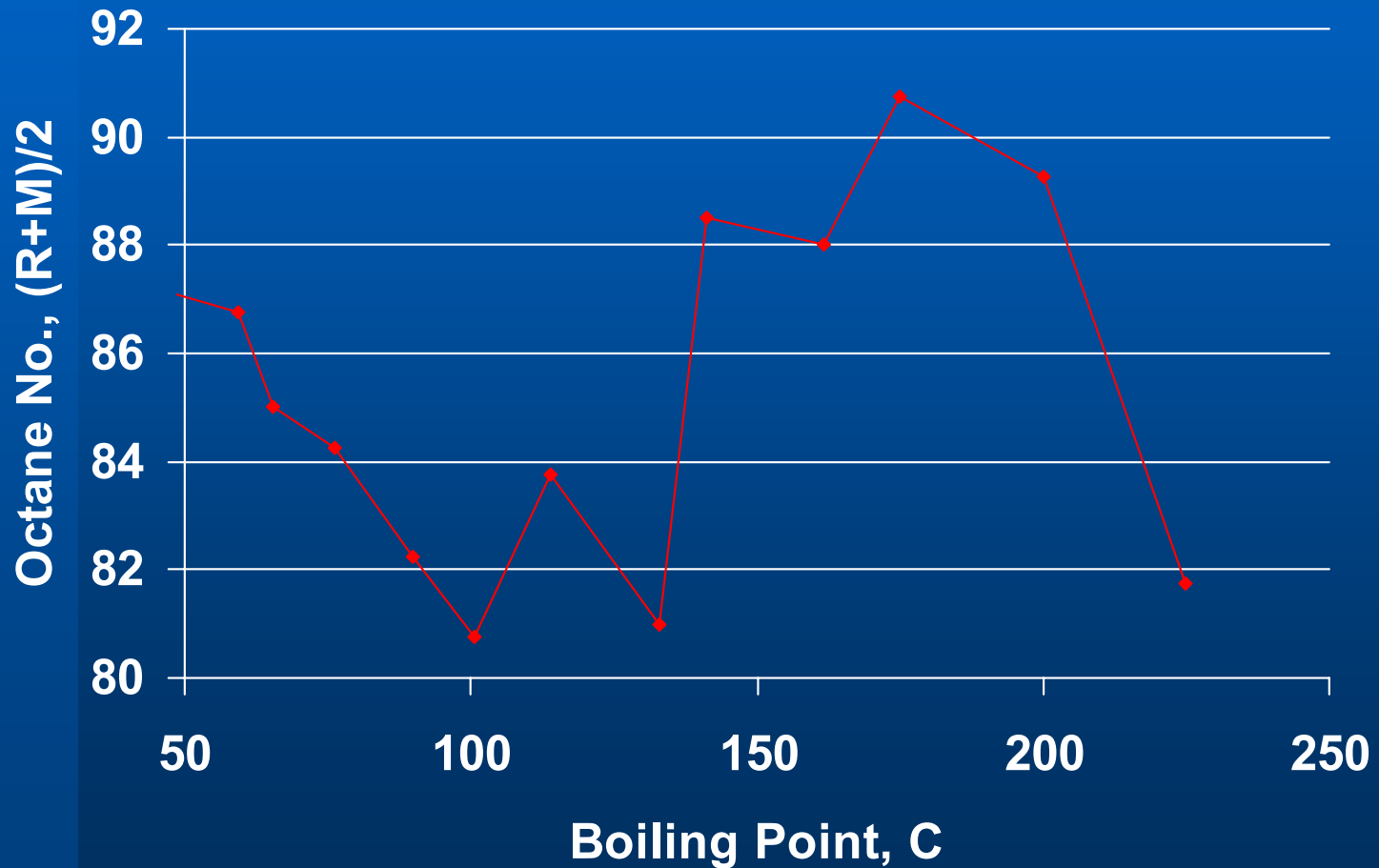
# Recombinant Mercaptan Experience



# Optimized FCC Gasoline HDS



# FCC Gasoline Octane Distribution



# MCN/HCN with CDHDS

Conditions milder than conventional fixed bed (17 barg vs 28+)

> 99% HDS

Heavy sulfur to bottom

Light olefins to top

Min octane loss(<1@ 90% HDS)

Low H<sub>2</sub> consumption

Low sulfur bottoms product good for gasoline

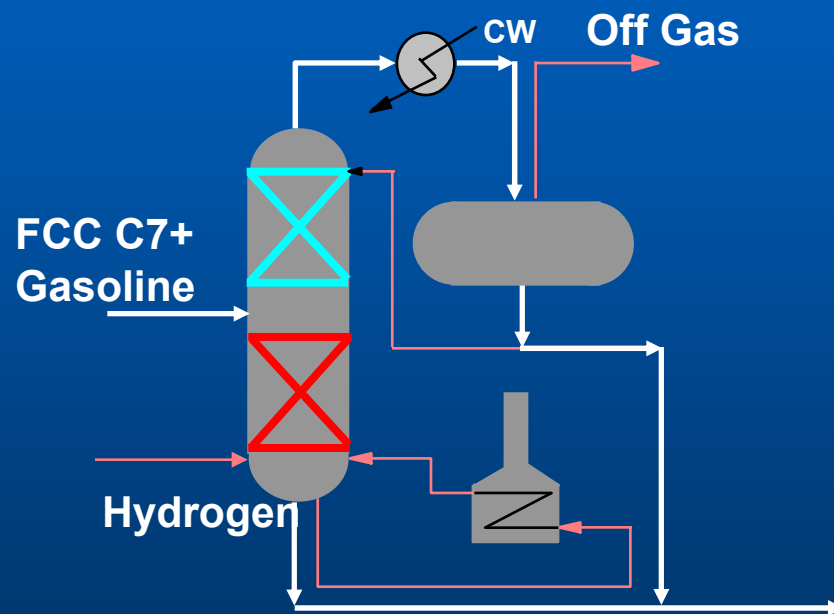
No yield loss due to cracking

No makeup compressor

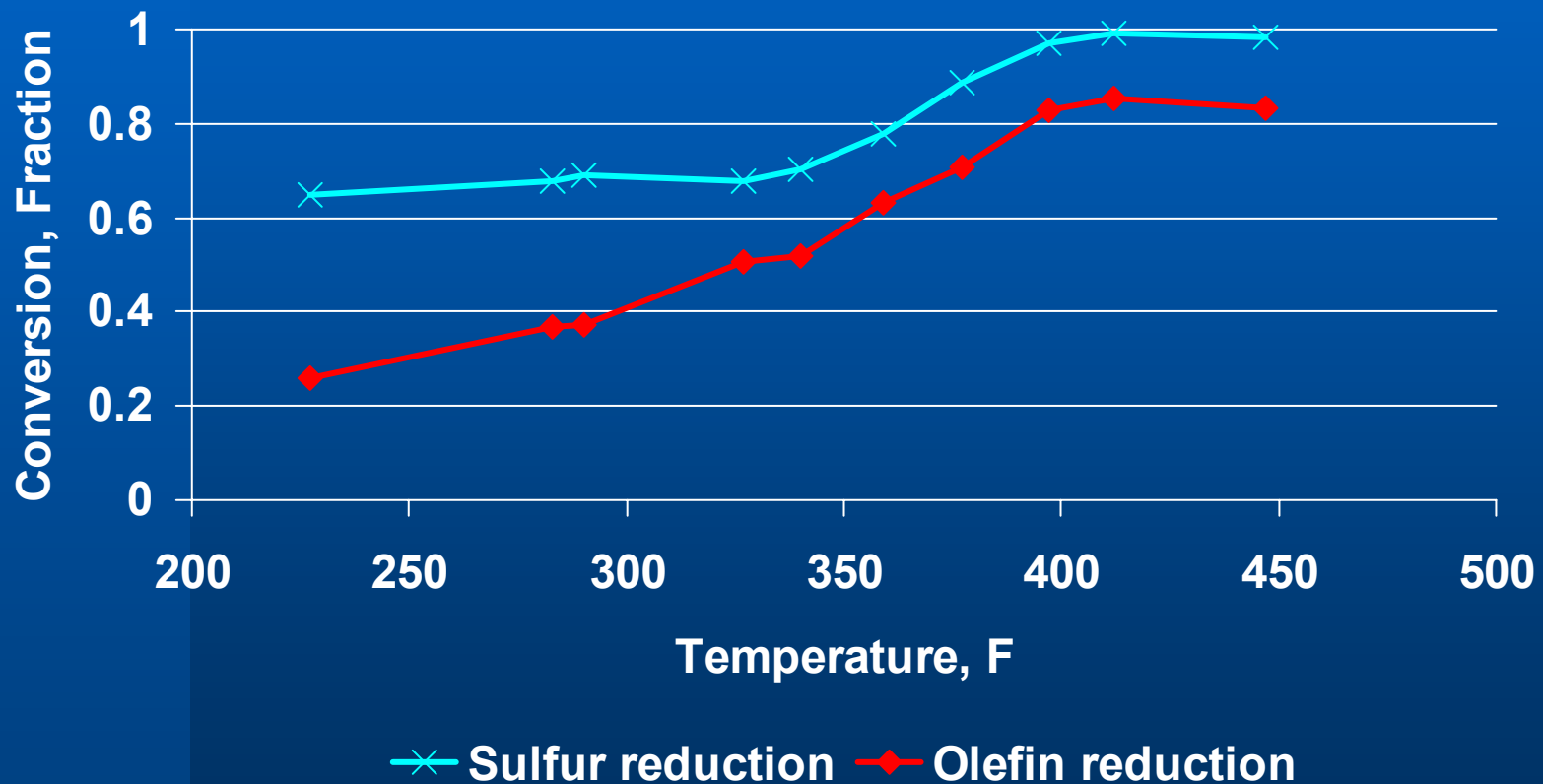
No mid-cycle shutdown for catalyst regen

No feed storage required

**CDHDS<sup>®</sup>**



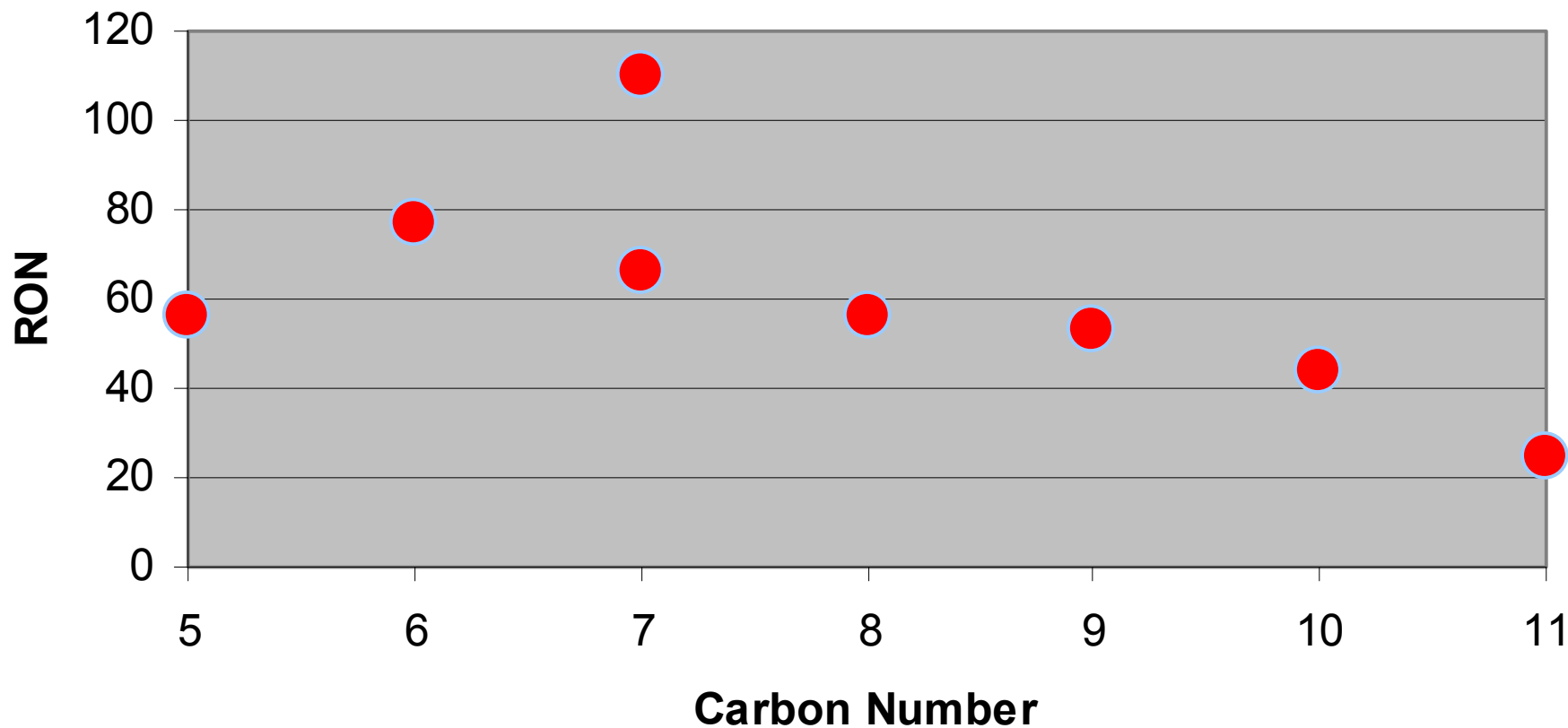
# Selectivity Curve



**Olefin saturation is higher for heavy olefins**

# Octane vs. Carbon Number

RON Linear Olefin - Linear Saturate



# Why is CDTECH's octane loss lower?

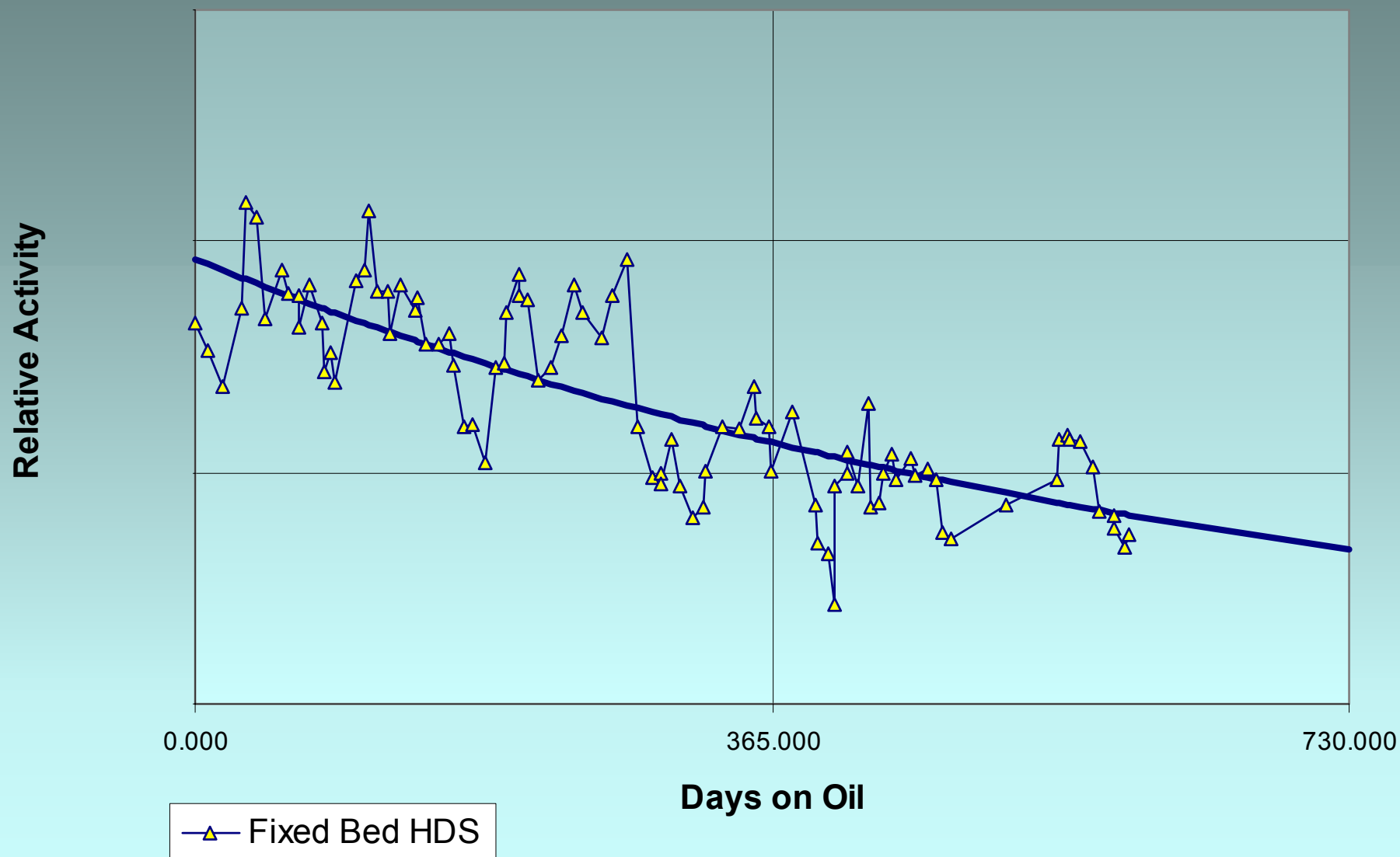
- Conventional fixed bed hydrotreaters
  - Saturate primarily light olefins
  - Light olefin saturation causes high octane loss
- *CDHDS*
  - Higher saturation of heavy olefins
  - Less octane to lose in heavy olefins
  - Lower octane loss at a given olefin reduction

# Fixed Bed HDS Catalyst Life?

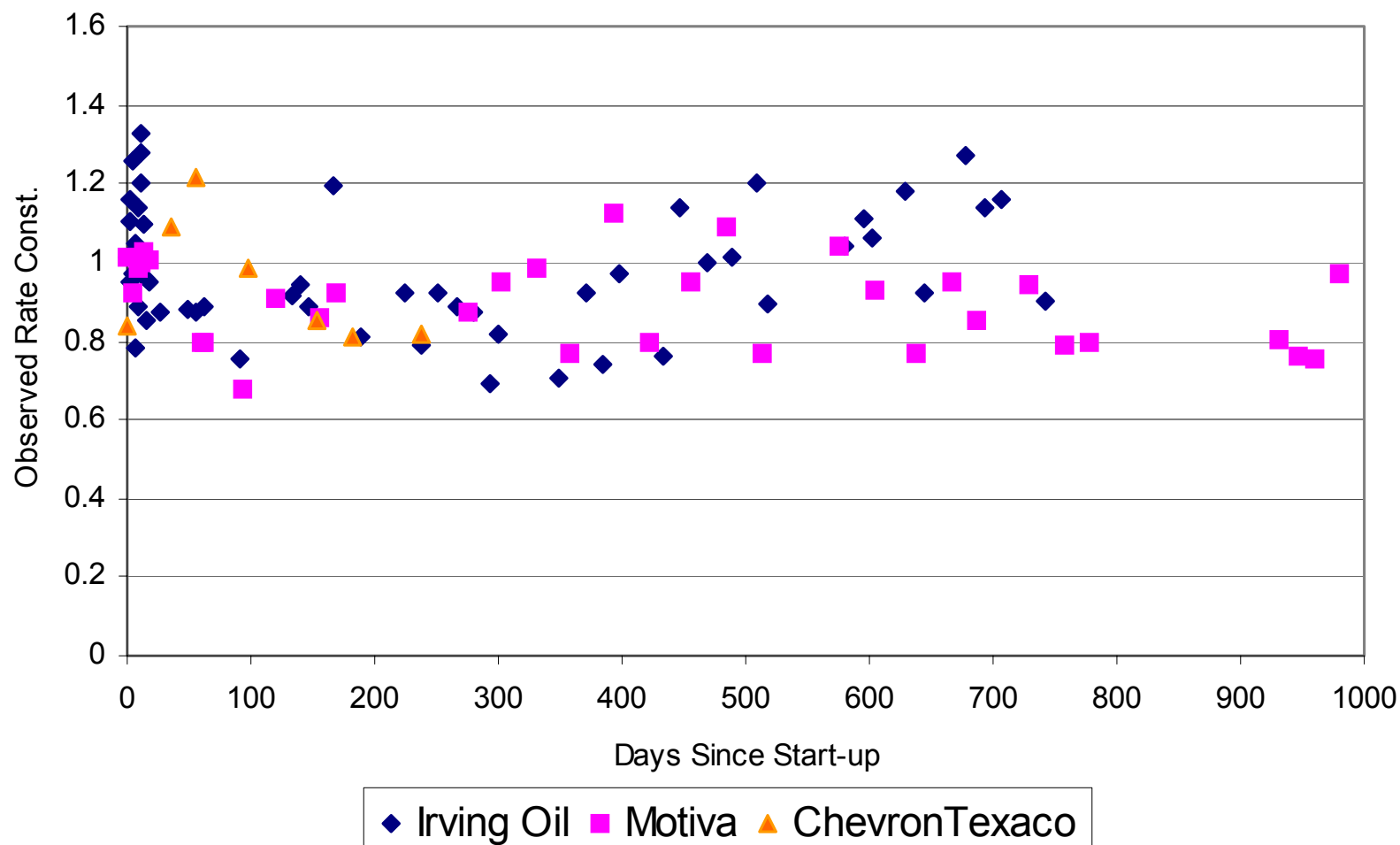
- **FCC turnaround cycle**
  - Modern refineries target 5 year cycle
- **Conventional fixed bed hydrotreaters**
  - Olefins form oligomers
  - Oligomers form coke that fouls catalyst
  - Catalyst activity reduced
  - Regenerate or replace catalyst
  - Must shutdown before end of FCC cycle
  - Fixed bed catalyst life insufficient



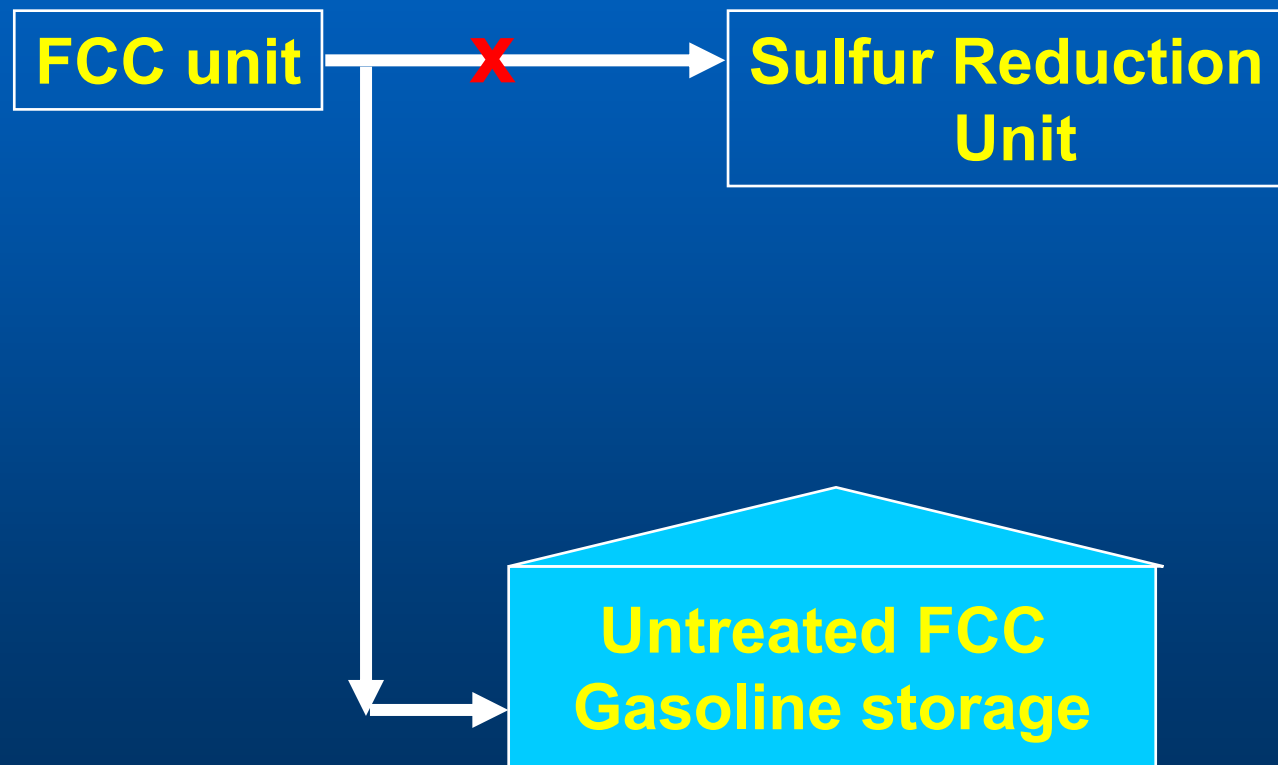
## Commercial Catalyst Activity for FCC Gasoline HDS



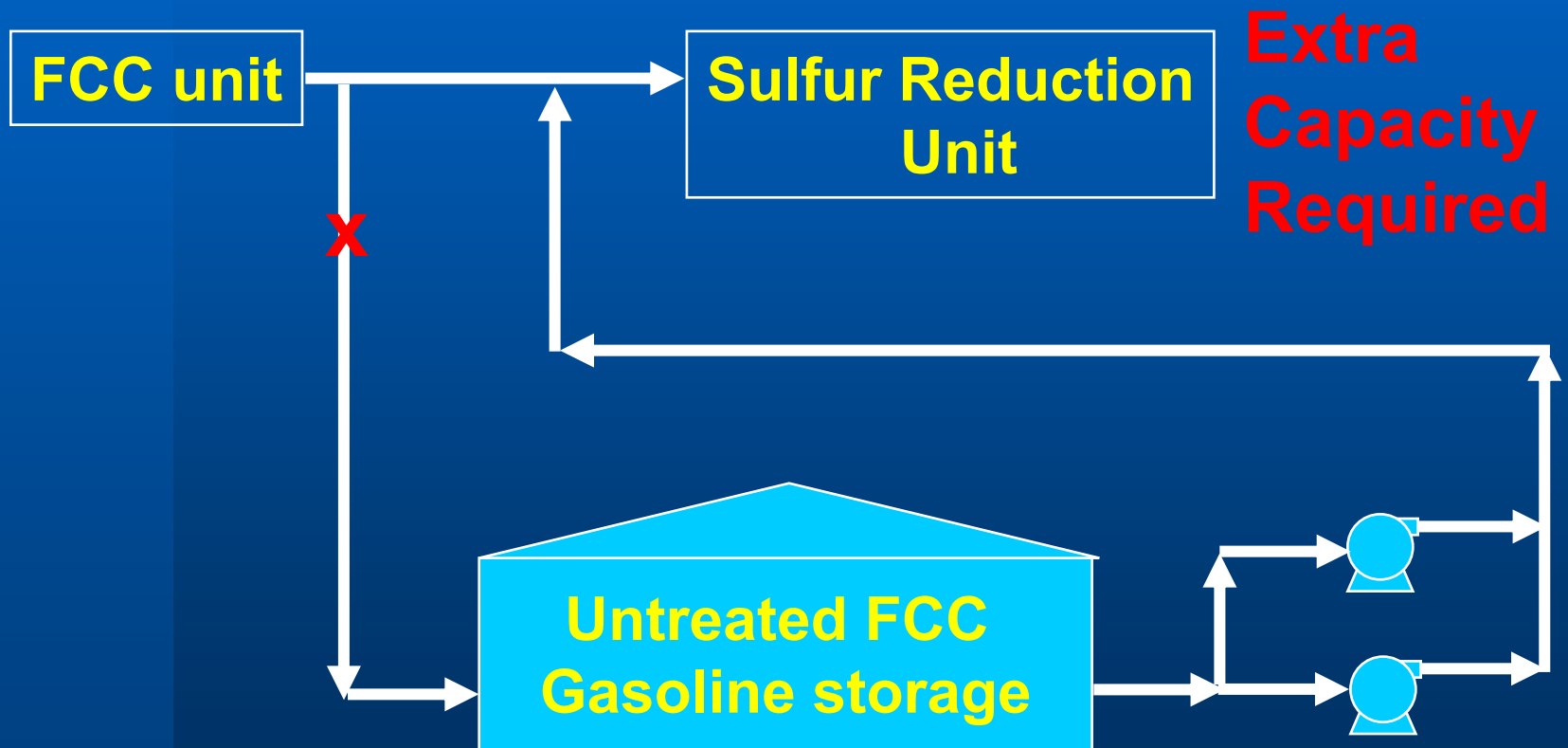
## Catalyst Activity History for Commercial CDHDS Units



# Conventional Fixed Bed Unit Shutdown



# Conventional Unit Restart



# Conclusions

## ***CDHydro***

**Lowest sulfur and diolefins in LCN**

**Eliminates separate mercaptan and diolefin removal units**

## ***CDHDS***

**Lowest FCC cycle olefin loss via HDS**

**No cracking yield loss**

**No diene pretreatment required**

**No regeneration/feed storage required**

## ***CDHydro/CDHDS***

**Lowest overall octane loss**

**Commercially proven**

**Most cost effective HDS in FR FCC CN**

**Long catalyst life via catalytic distillation**

**Low capital cost**

# Recommendations

- Plan for 10 ppm sulfur
- Evaluate full FCC cycle performance
- Include shutdown related capital cost
- Thank you to DOE for 1980 funding for CR&L

